

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 04242 091004 Z

15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 NIC-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /121 W
----- 015860

P 090814 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2957

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4242

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, JA

SUBJ: JAPAN AND PRC

REF: TOKYO 3982

SUMMARY: ON APRIL 8, JAPANESE AMB OGAWA DELIVERED PRIMIN TANAKA' S LETTER INVITING PREMIER CHOU EN- LAI TO JAPAN. CHOU REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT, AS HE IS BUSY, HE IS CONSIDERING HAVING FONMIN CHI PENG- FEI VISIT JAPAN FIRST. JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO BRIEF DEPARTMENT ON TANAKA' S LETTER TO CHOU. END SUMMARY.

1. JAPANESE PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT JAPANESE AMB OGAWA HELD 40 MINUTE MEETING WITH CHOU EN- LAI ON EVENING OF APRIL 8 AT WHICH TIME OGAWA DELIVERED LETTER TO CHOU FROM PRIMIN TANAKA.

2. AFTER MEETING, JAPANESE EMBASSY OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY TOLD JAPANESE PRESS THAT FOLLOWING CHOU' S WELCOME OGAWA SAID HE WISHED TO WORK FOR CREATION OF LASTING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA IN SPIRIT OF JAPAN- CHINA JOINT COMMUNIQUE. CHOU AGREED. THEREAFTER, OGAWA REPORTEDLY READ ALOUD AND THEN HANDED TO CHOU PERSONAL LETTER FROM
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 04242 091004 Z

PRIMIN TANAKA. AS LETTER INCLUDED INVITATION FOR CHOU TO VISIT JAPAN, OGAWA EXPRESSED PERSONAL HOPE CHOU COULD BE ABLE MAKE VISIT. CHOU REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT, AS HE WAS EXTREMELY BUSY WITH STATE BUSINESS, HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE EARLY DECISION ON VISIT TO JAPAN AND THAT HE WISHED CONSIDER PLANS FOR FONMIN CHI PENG- FEI TO VISIT JAPAN FIRST.

3. WHEN EMBOFF CONTACTED FONOFF RE LETTER, CHINA DIVISION DEP HEAD (OGURA) SAID THAT JAPANESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAD ALREADY BEEN INSTRUCTED TO HAVE SENIOR OFFICIAL PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH FULL BRIEFING ON TANAKA' S LETTER TO CHOU.

4. DURING PAYV WEEK, JAPANESE PRESS HAS SPECULATED THAT FONMIN OHIRA' S INVITATION TO FONMIN CHI IS (REFTEL) EFFORT BY GOJ TO INITIATE QTE PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS UNQTE AT FONMIN LEVEL. FONOFF HAS BEEN RATHER TIGHT- LIPPED ABOUT TANAKA' S LETTER AND PRESS HAS NOT SPECULATED ABOUT WHAT LETTER MAY HAVE CONTAINED BEYOND INVITATION TO CHOU.
INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Draft Date: 09 APR 1973
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: boyleja
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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